

REMARKS

[0003] Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims of the application. Claims 1-13, 19-29, and 31-40 are presently pending. No claims are amended. No claims are withdrawn or cancelled herein and no new claims are added herein.

Election/Restriction

[0004] The claims are subjected to a restriction/election requirement under 35 U.S.C. §121 as containing 2 patentably distinct groups of the claimed invention:

1. Inventions I and II are related as subcombinations disclosed as useable together in a single combination. The subcombinations are distinct from each other if they are shown separately useable. In the instant case, invention I has a separate utility such as filtering messages by applying security settings to the messages, classified in a different

Class/Subclass. Invention II has a separate utility such as loading application security settings in a node, classified in a different Class/Subclass. See MPEP 806.05(d).

2. The inventions are distinct from the other, because of the following reasons:

(a) These inventions have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classifications.

(b) The search required for each Group is different and not co-extensive for examination purposes.

For example, the searches for the two inventions would be not be co-extensive because these Groups would require different searches on PTO's classification class and subclass as follows:

The Group I search (1-13, 19-29, and 31-40) would require use of search class 726, subclass 13 (not required for the invention II).

The Group II search (14-18) would require use of search class 713, subclass 152 (not required for invention I).

For the reasons given above restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

- I. Claims 1-13, 19-29, and 31-40, are drawn to applying filtering operations to a message, as classified in class 726, subclass 13.
- II. Claims 14-18, are drawn to loading security information regarding applications into nodes, classified in class 713, subclass 152 i.e. application layer security.

[0005] Applicant hereby elects—without traverse—to prosecute Group I (claims 1-13, 19-29, and 31-40) in the event that the restriction/election

requirement as set forth above is maintained. Consequently, claims 14-18 are effectively canceled.

Formal Request for an Interview

[0006] If the Office's reply to this communication is anything other than allowance of all pending claims, then I formally request an interview with the Examiner. I encourage the Examiner to call me—the undersigned Agent for the Applicant—so that we can talk about this matter so as to resolve any outstanding issue quickly and efficiently over the phone.


[0007] Otherwise, please contact me or my assistant to schedule a date and time for a telephone interview that is most convenient for both of us. While email works great for us, I welcome your call to either of us as well. Our contact information may be found on the last page of this response.

Conclusion

[0008] All pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the **Examiner is urged to contact me before issuing a subsequent Action.** Please call/email me or my assistant at your convenience.

Respectfully Submitted,

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